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SL2-7302

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Chief of Mission
Attn: C
Chief, Salzburg Base
Operational/BUSSBAHN and Landeshauptmann KLAUS

31 December 1952

1. [] and I talked to GROSSBAHN about Landeshauptmann KLAUS on the afternoon of 30 December 1952, immediately after your departure from Salzburg. He confirmed in general what we had told you about his relationship with KLAUS. Briefly, his working contact to KLAUS has been through CC-2, although KLAUS has been aware of the fact that CC-2 was a representative of GROSSBAHN's and GROSSBAHN himself has had a friendly direct contact with KLAUS. The contact has not been operational, but rather in the nature of support, cover, and back-stopping. With no prompting on our part GROSSBAHN volunteered the fact that it would be valuable to him if he had some means of taking over the contact directly, without going through CC-2. To our way of thinking, to put GROSSBAHN in a position to drop a discreet hint that he is informed about--not responsible for--the impending transfer of OeVP funds would be an admirable means of achieving a takeover which would leave a lasting impression on KLAUS. We do not believe that that would necessarily point to an intelligence tie in, or much less be an indication of GROSSBAHN's precise U.S. sponsorship; rather it would be an impressive but simple indication that he enjoys the confidence of highly placed American officials.

2. DR. SSEEHN describes KLAUS as most discreet, an honest and reliable public servant, ambitious for position but not a *Wadefahrer*. His wife, GROSSBAHN says, is more ambitious for money than position, but KLAUS nevertheless apparently intends to remain in politics rather than returning to his profession of lawyer. If the OeVP loses strength in Land Salzburg KLAUS will of course lose his present appointment, but he has been mentioned as a possibility for Minister of Education in the Bundesregierung. If the OeVP loses out, GROSSBAHN will still retain a good working contact to the Socialist WRISSKIND, who will no doubt stay in the Landesregierung as a deputy governor or some fairly influential position.

Distribution

3 - Wien.
 1 - Salz Chrono.
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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

EXEMPT 7(E)(A) Privacy

(2)(A) PINacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources

(2)(B) Methods/Sources

(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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